REMARKS

The specification has been amended to identify information relating to the international application and priority application of the present application. The specification has also been amended to correct an obvious error of a reference to an artificial blood vessel. The subject matter of the present application is a nerve regeneration-inducing tube.

In the claims, the term "sponge-like" has been amended to "sponge". Also in the claims, the terminology "space part" has been amended to read "insertion space for insertion of a nerve end".

In the attached sheet of drawings, the position of the arrow identifying "Tubular Structure (A)" has been corrected. The term "space" used in the original drawings has been changed to "insertion space" to be consistent with amendments to the claims.

In the event any additional fees are required, please also charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

KUBOVCIK & KUBOVCIK

Keiko Tanaka Kubovcik Reg. No. 40,428

PATENT

U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2003/017014 PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Atty. Case No. NPR-171
The Farragut Building
Suite 710
900 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
Tel: (202) 887-9023
Fax: (202) 887-9093
KTK/jbf